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First Time's a Charm

South Beloit couple try new ticket, win \$100,000

SOUTH BELOIT, IL – April 10, 2008 – When Daniel Kotch decided to play a new lottery ticket just for the fun of it, he and his wife Donna ended up with an extra \$100,000. Now the pair of nature enthusiasts look forward to spending more time camping and fishing, and plan on putting some of their winnings towards the more adventurous outdoors pursuits that have always intrigued them.

Last month, before Donna dropped Daniel, an auto technician for 20 years, off at work, the couple decided to take a detour and stop at a local convenience store. “Daniel had played the Lottery off and on for years, whenever the mood hit him,” Donna said. Although he usually plays online games like Mega Millions and Little Lotto, Illinois Lottery’s Diamond Dollars instant ticket caught Daniel’s eye. “He started to scratch off the instant ticket in the car, while we were still parked,” Donna recalled. “At first, he thought he had a non-winning ticket, but when he scratched off the last number, he kept yelling, ‘I don’t believe it’ over and over.”

After dropping off her husband, Donna went to the claims office to submit the winning ticket. The couple plan to dedicate their winnings toward home renovations, and a camping trip with their four children. “We’ve always loved the outdoors,” Donna said. “For years we’ve been interested in more exciting activities, like white-water rafting and even tornado chasing, but

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never got around to pursuing them. Winning the Lottery has put us in the position where we can try things we've always wanted to do."

Quick N Save, at 1403 Pate Plaza Drive in South Beloit, Ill. will receive a bonus of 1 percent of the top prize, or \$1,000, for selling the winning ticket.

About the Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery is a state agency with annual sales over \$2 billion. Since its inception, the Lottery has contributed more than \$14 billion to the state Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools. Players must be at least 18 years old. For more information on the Illinois Lottery please visit our Web site at www.illinoislottery.com.

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